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P.L. December 6, 1972

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Mr. Stanley S. Carpenter  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Territorial Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of my report of the meeting held on Kwajalein regarding Eniwetok November 17, 1972. Also enclosed is a report from District Administrator deBrum of the meeting on Kwajalein on November 16, a few comments regarding the meeting on November 17, and some of the highlights of events which took place regarding Lekoj Anjain.

Sincerely yours,

  
Peter T. Coleman

Deputy High Commissioner

Enclosures (2)

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Report on Meeting on Kwajalein Regarding Eniwetok  
November 17, 1972

A meeting was held on November 17, 1972, (Kwajalein time) on Kwajalein. The following attended: District Administrator deBrum; Mr. Roger Ray, AEC representative; LtCdr Brown, DNA representative; Mr. Gilmore, Holmes and Narver representative; Attorney Hamlet J. Barry, III, Micronesian Legal Services Corp. (for the people of Eniwetok); Congressman Ataji Balos, Congress of Micronesia; and Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman.

Distad deBrum opened the meeting and indicated that its purpose was to permit the Eniwetok people's representatives to ask any questions they might have regarding the surveys now undergoing on Eniwetok. (Magistrate Gideon Smith of Ujelang and Councilman John Abraham were expected to attend the meeting but never came over from Ebeye. At the time of the meeting, it was expected that the group would be flying to Ujelang to explain the surveys in detail to the people; however, due to the limited seating space aboard the aircraft for the number of persons going [four seats available for twelve people], the trip to Ujelang was cancelled two days later.) It is expected that a trip to Ujelang will be made in December at a date to be set later by Mr. Roger Ray and Distad deBrum.

Mr. Barry stated that he understood that the proposed meeting with the Ujelang people would not be a hearing regarding the NEPA and the PACE program. Commander Brown responded that their purpose was just to have a meeting to brief the people of Ujelang of the surveys now underway at Eniwetok. Mr. Barry accepted this saying that it was important for the people to know details about the surveys that are not connected with PACE. Commander Brown explained that the purpose of the survey was to check the safety of the structures on Eniwetok and determine what might affect the environment in the event of a cleanup. Mr. Barry wanted to know what the meaning of the cleanup was, and Mr. Gilmore of Holmes and Narver stated that it was merely to verify what structures are there on Eniwetok and the condition they are in. Mr. Barry then explained that he was asking these questions because of problems in getting answers regarding the survey.



Mr. Barry also asked about the time frame of the survey. Commander Brown said that he hoped to be out by Christmas and that he was only on Kwajalein for the briefing and would return to Eniwetok as soon as possible.

Discussions followed in which it was mentioned that the preliminary report of the surveys would probably be available in March or April, 1973. However, Mr. Ray indicated that he expects to have the results of the survey by summer of 1973 and from these results it is hoped to get an understanding of the environment and make a judgement.

When asked by Mr. Barry about the similarities of the surveys on Bikini and Eniwetok, Mr. Ray indicated that the radiological differences are quite significant - more on Eniwetok than on Bikini. Commander Brown said that many remnants of World War II are still on Eniwetok.

When asked by Mr. Barry about the extent of the costs of cleanup of Bikini in comparison to Eniwetok, Mr. Gilmore indicated the Bikini cleanup cost \$2.8 million and estimated the cleanup costs for Eniwetok would be larger.

Mr. Barry then asked when the people would be able to return to Eniwetok. Commander Brown indicated that any return would depend on the results of the survey. Mr. Ray added that December, 1973 has been mentioned as the date for return of Eniwetok to the Trust Territory Government. Mr. Gilmore said that the size of the job had not yet been determined, so Mr. Barry asked whether the people of Ujelang could move to Japtan. Mr. Ray replied that from the radiological point of view, it would be premature to consider such a move until we know more about the food chain (this was his personal point of view). Food chain information should be available next summer.

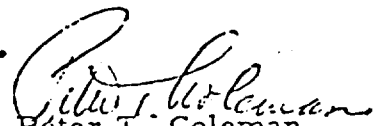
Mr. Barry asked Commander Brown about the involvement of DNA, and Commander Brown explained that DNA was involved in this survey because of its early involvement in the tests. To clarify what DNA is, Mr. Ray gave an explanation of DNA's authorities and responsibilities and how it works.



Mr. Barry asked how many men would be on Eniwetok when Holmes and Narver goes back on November 22. Mr. Ray indicated that altogether, 38 people, including eight from Holmes and Narver, are involved in the survey. Commander Brown added that he is only a representative of DNA on Eniwetok.

Congressman Balos then stated that he is convinced that the group now on Eniwetok is not in any way connected with PACE. Mr. Barry also stated that he was convinced that the survey had no connection with PACE, but he could not speak for Mr. Ted Mitchell, Director of Micronesian Legal Services Corp.

Distad deBrum then thanked everyone for their time and the meeting ended.

  
Peter I. Coleman  
Deputy High Commissioner



The following was submitted in draft by District Administrator deBrum.

On Thursday, November 16, 1972, a meeting was held in the office of the District Administrator's Representative on Kwajalein. Present were: District Administrator deBrum; Roger Ray, AEC Representative; Attorney Chips Barry; Congressman Ataji Balos; Magistrate Gideon Smith (Ujelang); and Councilman John Abraham.

In this meeting, I stressed that the purpose of our inviting the AEC representatives is to allow all of those concerned with Eniwetok to exchange questions and ideas, and any doubts that may exist, so that we can jointly work together toward a common goal of eventual return of the Ujelang people to their island of Eniwetok Atoll. In this meeting, the most important and crucial questions asked by Mr. Barry and Congressman Balos concerned the radiological survey being conducted by the AEC on the islands in Eniwetok Atoll. The main question asked was whether the radiological survey has anything to do, or is in any way connected, with the PACE program which has been temporarily suspended by court order. The answer from Mr. Ray was negative. Mr. Barry and Congressman Balos were satisfied with the answer. Other questions pertinent to the radiological survey by the AEC which were asked were how many men are working, what type of equipment is being used, what is the anticipated duration of the work, what are the ultimate results. Mr. Ray reiterated that it is to find out and identify any material that may be considered to be radioactive and dangerous to the people and which needs to be removed or cleaned before the people can safely live on the island.

Another meeting was held on Friday, November 17, 1972, with the Deputy High Commissioner, Peter Coleman; LtCdr. Brown (DNA); Mr. Gilmore (Holmes and Narver); Mr. Ray (AEC); Attorney Chips Barry; Congressman Ataji Balos; and District Administrator deBrum.


The main issue was for LtCdr. Brown to explain the DNA scope of work on Eniwetok Atoll. LtCdr. Brown explained that the main purpose of DNA's work was connected with the estimated anticipated cost of the cleanup work, so designated by the AEC, to be necessary for the safe return of the people to live on the island. He also stated that his work on Eniwetok is not in any way connected with the PACE program. It is my observation that Mr. Barry and Congressman Balos were satisfied with LtCdr. Brown's presentation.



High Commissioner Johnston asked me to make a report of some of the highlights of events which took place regarding the deceased, Leko Anjain.

In our church service on Ebeye, all Trust Territory employees followed us in our visit. The body of the deceased arrived Kwajalein on Monday, November 20 (Kwajalein time) by a Saturn flight. The body was taken to Ebeye for an overnight stay, as requested by the parents John Anjain and Mrs. Anjain. We visited Ebeye on Tuesday (Kwajalein time) and with us came the leaders from Kwajalein and Ebeye (Iroij Lojelan Kabua) the "fathers of the community". Mr. Coleman delivered the joint condolence message. The spokesman for the family of the deceased asked us to convey to the Interior Department, the High Commissioner, and others their most sincere appreciation for the expression of sympathy shown by us in our visit.

During the church service in Rongelap and after Mr. Coleman had delivered our condolence message, Mr. Anjain expressed his deepest appreciation for our expression of condolence, as shown by our visit and presence. Mr. Anjain stated to those present in the church that he accompanied his son during his trip to the United States, and during the time, his son was admitted to various hospitals for treatment. Mr. Anjain stated that he was able to observe and witness that the very best of care and treatment was given to his son, that he was so grateful that so much attention and care were given to his son, and that it was comforting to know this during this time of their sorrow. He requested that we convey his family's deepest and most sincere appreciation to the Secretary of the Interior, to the High Commissioner, to Dr. Conard of AEC, and to others who were so thoughtful and considerate in making it possible for our participation during a time of their sorrow and to share their sorrow with the bereaved family. The father also indicated that he knew that everything that could have been done to treat his son and care for him was done, and he and his family were most appreciative.

  
for Oscar deBrum

District Administrator, Marshalls